

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An interconnect (1), comprising:

one or more socket connectors (10) of a flexible textile construction (12); and

one or more jack connectors (20),

5 wherein said one or more jack connectors (20) are operatively connectable with said one or more socket connectors (10).

2. The interconnect (1) of claim 1, wherein said one or more socket connectors (10) have one or more conductive contact areas (14).

3. The interconnect (1) of claim 2, wherein said one or more jack connectors
10 (20) have one or more conductive areas (25) operatively connectable with said one or more conductive contact areas (14) of said one or more socket connectors (10).

4. The interconnect (1) of claim 1, wherein said one or more socket connectors (10) are collapsible so as to be substantially unnoticeable when void.

5. The interconnect (1) of claim 1, wherein said one or more jack connectors
15 (20) have a concertina-like engaging portion (21).

6. The interconnect (1) of claim 1, wherein said one or more jack connectors have an engaging portion (21) with one or more joints (23), one or more segments (24), and one or more actuators (26) cooperative with said one or more joints (23) and/or said one or more segments (24) to influence said engaging portion (21).

7. The interconnect (1) of claim 3, wherein said one or more jack connectors (20) have a concertina-like engaging portion (21) operatively connectable with said one or more socket connectors (10) to facilitate said one or more conductive contact areas (14) being mechanically and/or electrically connected with said one or more conductive areas (25).

8. A garment or upholstery (35) having the interconnect (1) of claim 1.

9. An interconnect (1), comprising:

a socket (10); and

a jack (2) with a concertina-like engaging portion (21) and a body portion (22).

10. The interconnect (1) of claim 9, wherein said socket is fashioned from a textile construction (12).

11. The interconnect (1) of claim 9, wherein said socket has one or more conductive contact areas (14).

12. The interconnect (1) of claim 9, wherein said socket is collapsible so as to be substantially unnoticeable when void.

13. The interconnect (1) of claim 9, wherein said concertina-like engaging portion (21) has one or more joints (23), one or more segments (24), one or more conductive areas (25), and one or more actuators (26) cooperative with said one or more joints (23) and/or said one or more segments (24) to facilitate in manipulating said engaging portion (21).

14. The interconnect (1) of claim 13, wherein said manipulation of said engaging portion (21) is accomplished via a controller (29).

15. The interconnect (1) of claim 14, wherein said controller (29) is a bias control for managing a bias associated with said one or more actuators (26), said one or more segments (24), and/or said one or more joints (23) to bring said one or more conductive areas (25) into mechanical and/or electrical communication with one or more contact areas (14) of said socket (10).

16. The interconnect (1) of claim 14, wherein said controller (29) is a sliding member associated with said body portion (22) of said jack (20).

17. A garment or upholstery (35) having the interconnect (1) of claim 9.

18. A method for using a textile interconnect (1) comprising the steps of:

providing one or more sockets (10), said one or more sockets (10) being fashioned from a flexible textile construction (12) and having one or more conductive contact areas (14);

15 providing one or more jacks (20), said one or more jacks (20) being mechanically and/or electrically connectable with said one or more sockets (10) and having one or more conductive areas (25); and

engaging said one or more jacks (20) with said one or more sockets (10) such that said one or more conductive areas (25) are in mechanical and/or electrical communication with said one or more conductive contact areas (14).

19. The method of claim 19, further comprising a step of: adjusting said one or more jacks (20) via a mechanical interaction to provide a more secure mechanical and/or electrical connection with said one or more sockets (10).

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said mechanical interaction is
5 accomplished via a controller (29), one or more actuators (26), one or more segments (24), and/or one or more joints (23).